Reforms in agricultural education

†2281. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have assigned the responsibility of comprehensive reforms in higher agricultural education to the Indian Council of Agricultural Research;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard;

(c) whether Government have also prepared a proposal for bringing in reforms in higher agricultural education;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the assessment of the need of money required to accomplish the task by the said council?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The comprehensive reforms in higher agricultural education encompass Human Resource Planning, Curriculum Planning and Orientation, Centers of Niche Areas of Excellence, Real Life Practical Work Experience, Engendering Course Curricula, Faculty Competence, Vocational Education.

(e) The projected funding is Rs. 2800.00 crores. Out of this, Rs. 200.00 crores have been sanctioned by the Government of India for the financial year 2006-07.

Coverage of kharif crop

†2282. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that agriculture products grown for kharif crop during the year 2006 were grown over a large piece of agriculture land than the one covered by kharif crop last year;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the facts thereof and the total area of agriculture land the kharif crop raised on;

(c) the extent by which it is larger than the one in last year; and

(d) the estimated agriculture production due to larger agriculture land being used for production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (d) The sowing operations for kharif crops of 2006-07 are in progress. As per the reports received in the weekly meeting of the Crop Weather Watch Group (CWWG) held on 14th August 2006 in the Ministry of Agriculture, the crop-wise area coverage in kharif 2006-07 is given in the table below:

(Lakh Hectares)

Kharif Crop	Area Coverage		Kharif Crop	Area Coverage	
	2006-07	2005-06		2006-07	2005-06
Rice	276.56	262.73	Moong	24.07	20.51
Jowar	33.74	34.92	Moth	7.69	14.36
Bajra	68.77	73.44	Total Pulses	95.45	96.58
Maize	69.88	65.33	Groundnut	42.51	52.55
Total Coarse Cereals	185.44	189.81	Soyabean	79.05	75.87
Cotton	81.77	70.76	Sunflower	7.28	6.51
Sugarcane	44.45	42.8	Sesamum	14.29	15.55
Arhar	32.42	32.15	Castorseed	5.48	7.19
Urad	20.08	18.16	Total Oilseeds	149.95	159.74

It may be seen from the above table that the area coverage so far under several crops in Kharif 2006-07 is more than that for the corresponding period in kharif 2005-06. The total kharif area coverage so far is 833.62 lakh hectares, which is higher by 11.20 lakh hectares than the 822.42 lakh hectares of area coverage in kharif 2005-06 during the corresponding period.

The 1st advance estimates of production of major kharif crops for the year 2006-07 would emerge in September/October, 2006.

Industries set up through KVIC in Uttaranchal

2283. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Khadi, Woollen, Silky soft fine woolen and Hasthkargha, etc. industries set up under various programmes of Government through KVIC in Uttaranchal during the last three years, programme-wise and year-wise;

(b) the number of persons employed in these industries in the State during the last three years alongwith value of their products; and

(c) the assistance Government are providing to promote these industries in the State?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Khadi activities are implemented in Uttaranchal through 37 institutions affiliated to the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC)/Uttaranchal Khadi and Village Industries Board. The year-wise details of the value of production of khadi items as well as the number of persons employed in cotton and woollen khadi sectors in Uttaranchal during the last three years, are given below:

Year	Production of khadi items in Uttaranchal			
	Cotton Value (Rs. lakh)	Khadi Employment (lakh persons)	Woollen Value (Rs. lakh)	Khadi Employment (lakh persons)
2003-04	600.63	0.20	437.63	0.06
2004-05	722.71	0.21	334.92	0.05
2005-06	737.48	0.22	341.82	0.05

There was no production of silk khadi in Uttaranchal during this period nor was any new khandi silk institution set up.

(c) The Central Government, through KVIC, has been implementing